

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 remain pending in the application.

Allowed Claims 1-6

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-6 are allowed.

Claims 7 and 11 in View of Liu and Mauney

In the Office Action, claims 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 6,289,218 to Liu ("Liu") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,484,027 to Mauney et al. ("Mauney").

Claims 7-14 are amended herein to recite the single entry of a passcode or PIN into a piconet network device including a piconet front end, and the provision of unique addresses of at least two wireless piconet network devices each associated with a single entered passcode or PIN. This language is intended to mirror substantially subject matter found allowable by the Examiner with respect to claims 1-6.

The Examiner cites Liu as allegedly disclosing a wireless piconet device 15.

The devices "15" in Fig. 3 of Liu cited by the Examiner are disclosed as being DECT handsets located outside of the BSR (Boundary Service Range) of a base 11. (Liu, col. 4, lines 49-53) Liu further explains that "DECT" (Digital Enhanced **Cordless** Telecommunications) is the protocol for European digital wireless telephone and can be applied for residential **PABX** (Private Automatic Branch Exchange). (Liu, col. 1, lines 9-17) (emphasis added)

Neither the **cordless telephone** disclosed by Liu, nor a PABX, are disclosed as being piconet network devices, as required by claims 7-14 of the present application.

In the previous Office Action, the Examiner had alleged that Liu "inherently" included a piconet front end (Office Action of July 31, 2003 at 2) However, it is believed that the Examiner agrees that that 'inherent' interpretation of Liu was improper under the doctrine of **necessary inherency**.

In particular, under the doctrine of necessary inherency, anticipation may be established when a single prior art reference fails to disclose the claimed invention ipsissimis verbis, but the natural and invariable practice of the reference would necessarily inherently meet all the elements of the claim. See, e.g., Verdegaal Bros., Inc. v. Union Oil Co. of Cal., 814 F.2d 628, 2 USPQ2d 1051 (Fed. Cir. 1987); In re King, 801 F.2d 1324, 231 USPQ 136 (Fed. Cir. 1986); Tyler Refrigeration v. Kysor Indus. Corp., 777 F.2d 687, 227 USPQ 245 (Fed. Cir. 1985); Ethyl Molded Products Co. v. Betts Package Inc., No. 85-111 1032 (D.C.E.D. Kent. 1988). The doctrine of inherency is available only when the inherency can be established as a certainty; probabilities are not sufficient. In re Oelrich, 666 F.2d 578, 581, 212 USPQ 323, 326 (CCPA 1981); In re Chandler, 254 F.2d 396, 117 USPQ 361 (CCPA 1981); Ethyl Molded Prod. Co. at 1032.

Liu neither explicitly nor 'inherently' discloses a wireless piconet front end, as a piconet front end is not a **certainty** from any of Liu's disclosure.

The foundation for the section 103 rejection of claims 7-14 being improperly based on an allegedly inherent feature of Liu, it is respectfully requested that the improper rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 7-14 further require that at least **two** piconet network devices in a common piconet network are associated with said **single entered passcode or PIN**.

Mauney fails to teach use of a PIN code associated with more than one unique address, as required by claims 7-14. As described earlier, Liu also fails to teach use of such a PIN code. Thus, the combination cannot be properly deemed to teach use of a passcode or PIN as recited by claims 7-14.

Mauney teaches nothing more than the use of a 1-to-1 find list. No device used in Mauney establishes a network at all, much less a piconet. Mauney's devices are handsets capable of 1-to-1 communication with one another (after using the disclosed find procedures).

Neither Liu nor Mauney discloses, teaches or suggests a piconet network at all, much less a **piconet front end** as required by amended claims 7-14.

For at least all the above reasons, claims 7 and 11 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 8-10 and 12-14 in View of Liu, Mauney and Brown

Claims 8-10 and 12-14 were rejected in separate rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Liu in view of Mauney, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,366,622 to Brown et al. ("Brown"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claims 8-10 and 12-14 depend from claims 7 and 11, respectively, and are patentable for all the reasons that claims 7 and 11 are patentable.

Claims 8-10 and 12-14 are amended herein to recite the single entry of a passcode or PIN into a piconet network device **including a piconet front end**, and the provision of unique addresses of at least two wireless piconet network devices each associated with a single entered passcode or PIN. Again, this language is intended to mirror substantially subject matter found allowable by the Examiner with respect to claims 1-6.

As discussed above, Liu and Mauney, even combined as the Examiner alleges, still fails to teach or suggest a piconet network at all, much less a **piconet front end** as required by amended claims 8-10 and 12-14.

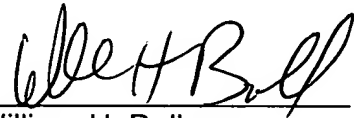
The Examiner cites Brown to allegedly teach the general use of BLUETOOTH functionality. The Applicants agree that BLUETOOTH functionality is known, as discussed in the present specification, e.g., at page 1, line 29. The present invention relates to the implementation and use of a single PIN associated with a class of unique piconet network addresses. None of the cited art discloses, teaches or suggests such use of a PIN at all, much less in a piconet network as disclosed.

For these and other reasons, claims 8-10 and 12-14 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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